The fnpara package

A LATEX style to typeset footnotes in run-on paragraphs.

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1 History:

A vain attempt at this LAT_EX modification was tried in late September 1988 by Dominik Wujastyk, and sent to T_EX has and UKT_EX for comment. Chris Rowley came up with a working version a few days later, but it still needs thorough testing.

2 The Style:

This LATEX style changes the way LATEX does footnotes. With this style invoked ($\clickdocumentstyle[fnpara]{article}$), footnotes will be typeset in a running paragraph, instead of one above another. It is suitable for texts such as critical editions, which contain many short footnotes.

This is based on the T_EX macros described by Knuth in the T_EX book, Dirty Tricks, pages 398–400. It is not tested beyond some simple examples. In particular, it has not been tested properly in connection with even the simplest of environments, nor with other floats.

(In fact, ordinary LaTeX footnotes sometimes do not work well if they need splitting (e.g. producing blank pages, or appearing in shufled form): but these problems should not affect this style. I –CR– have sent in a Bug Report about some of these problems.)

Be aware of Knuth's note on the limitations of this method of doing the job: the T_EX stack is used four times per footnote, and the stack is limited (T_EX book pp. 300–301). So if you have very many footnotes (in the hundreds) and encounter

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"! TeX capacity exceeded, sorry [... save size ...]"
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errors, you may need to break your text into smaller sections. Fortunately, this is very easy to do with $\square T_E X$. And the footnote counter can be reset to make the joins seamless.

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Modified 11/12/95Updated with new copies of relevant definitions from base files, and added definitions for paragraph footnotes inside minipages

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